


SEISDON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health,
FOR THE YEAR 1900.

WOLVERHAMPTON :

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PENN FIELDS,

WOLVERHAMPTON,

FEBRUARY 10TH, 1901.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Health Report for the Rural District of Seisdon for the year 1900.

The Population I estimate at 13,773 being an increase of 75, against one of 162 last year. The increase—

Tettenhall	...	...	...	30
Kinver	...	...	...	5
Wombourn	...	...	...	40
				—
Total	...			75

The Births this year show an increase of 20, as compared with last year, being an increase of 5 for Tettenhall, 16 for Kinver, and a decrease of 1 for Wombourn. The total number of Births is 329.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Tettenhall	...	45	47	92
Kinver	...	42	49	91
Wombourn	...	66	80	146
		<hr/>		
Totals	...	153	176	329

The excess of Births over Deaths is 114, being 10 more than last year.

The Death Rate is 15.6, which is practically the average for the last ten years.

DEATHS IN REGISTRATION DISTRICTS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tettenhall	26	16	42
Kinver	27	34	61
Wombourn	61	51	112
Total	114	101	215

There were ⁵~~nine~~ cases of Uncertified Deaths, which is ~~Four more than last year. and that surely is a retrograde step.~~

Causes of Death for the last 10 years :—

Causes.			1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
Small Pox..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlatina	..	..	1	1	..	3	2	2	2	2	..	3
Diphtheria	..	..	..	1	..	3	3	3	2	..	1	..
Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	2
Fever.	{	Typhus	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Enteric	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2
		Continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Relapsing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Puerperal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	1	1	1	..
Mensles	..	..	..	9	..	1	..	2	4	6	..	4
Whooping Cough..	..	..	11	4	..	1	6	1	6	1	4	6
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	..	..	3	4	12	5	3	8	9	6	7	2
Rheumatic Fever..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Phthisis	..	..	17	8	9	18	9	7	13	9	7	12
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	..	..	47	73	32	24	55	32	41	38	49	24
Heart Disease	..	..	28	17	12	24	16	12	21	18	21	39
Injuries	..	..	1	7	9	4	10	1	8	7	6	4
All other Diseases	..	..	135	117	86	84	106	111	100	93	106	119
Totals	..	..	254	236	160	169	213	180	208	182	205	215

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.—Of this disease there were 12 cases, which is 8 more than last year. They were all with more or less certainty traced to Wolverhampton as the source of infection. They were all solitary cases, and by immediate isolation, and 9 being removed to the Isolation Hospital, there was no further spread of the disease from them.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were 4 cases, all occurring in the Wombourn District; 2 in Upper Penn, 1 Lower Penn, 1 Bradmore.

TYPHOID FEVER.—3 cases have occurred, 1 in Tettenhall, 2 in Wombourn. Of these cases, 1 was doubtful, and the other was imported.

MEASLES.—There were outbreaks in each district, resulting in 4 deaths. If this disease were included among the notifiable complaints, it would doubtless save many lives.

INFLUENZA, from which there were 11 deaths registered, was very prevalent in the early months, since when it has been less so than ever since its first appearance in this country.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT.

There have been only 28 cases this year, less than any year since the Act was adopted, as will be seen below ; the average for ten years being 62.

CASES NOTIFIED.

	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid.	Puerperal Peritonitis.	Croup.	Typhus.	Small Pox,	Total.
1892	20	5	2	6	—	—	1	1	35
1893	33	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	44
1894	140	12	16	1	1	—	—	2	172
1895	61	7	19	4	—	1	—	—	92
1896	64	8	14	3	—	1	—	—	90
1897	57	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	67
1898	45	6	7	5	1	—	—	—	64
1899	4	7	11	7	1	—	—	—	30
1900	12	9	4	3	—	—	—	—	28
									622

BRATCH ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Nine cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to this Institution. One case, very severe from the first, proved fatal. This Institution continues to gather favour, most of the cases being sent in as a matter of course, and many of the patients do not wish to be sent home, and even would like to come back long after. The Hospital had been empty nearly twelve months last June.

SMALL POX.—Again I call your attention to the fact that you have made no provision whatever for this disease; nor have I had any instructions should cases occur.

The new Vaccination Act works more and more smoothly, and results in more efficient Vaccination than under the old Act, but to exactly what degree further time will be required to show.

The following Table, for my Sub-District of Wombourne, is appended:—

VACCINATION RESULTS—(Wombourn District).

OLD ACT					
	Births.	Vaccination.	Deaths (Infantile).	Insusceptibles, Objectors, &c.	Ratio.
1891	159	131	5	4	82·4
1892	185	167	13	6	90·2
1893	179	158	16	8	83·6
1894	160	129	13	13	74·3
1895	195	170	15	20	87·5
1896	166	167	11	13	100·6
1897	147	97	14	23	65·9
1898	198	137	14	14	69·2
NEW ACT.					
1899	147	189	20	10	128·5
1900	113	112	7	—	99·1

9 months.)

WATER SUPPLY.—Tap water has been supplied to 16 houses, principally in Penn. 25 samples of water have been analysed, of which 14 have been found polluted. Out of 17 samples from the neighbourhood of Smestow, only 7 were passed, and they were questionable, so that it is absolutely necessary for pure water to be supplied at once. In Kinver the inhabitants dare not use their own wells in numerous cases, and when their neighbours water, that they do use, is analysed, it is generally proved to be polluted.

DRAINAGE.—There have been 266 yards of drainage laid down in the Parishes of Penn, Wombourn and Codsall, and various extra traps inserted elsewhere. Ventilating shafts have been placed in Penn Fields and Wombourn, but more are required. I regret no system of drainage has yet been adopted at Kinver (a rising pleasure resort) where it is so badly needed. Should an epidemic—say of typhoid—once start, I fear it would spread rapidly all over the village. I feel sure a satisfactory scheme could be carried out at a small cost.

The Autherley Lane drainage, which your Inspector carried out, and which cost so little, acts exceedingly well. It drains nearly 100 houses, and could, probably, answer for two or three times that number.

NUISANCES.—The adoption of emptying privies by contract, in the Penn Parish has been a great step in the right direction, and should certainly be adopted in the other populous districts, more especially in Kinver and Wombourn, where so many nuisances occur of this nature.

Last year I called your attention to the shocking state of Victoria Road, Bradmore, as well as others. I am delighted to say it has been transformed from a fever-breeding slough into an excellent road. I hope you will at once take up others with equally good results. especially Star

Street, Bradmore, the cross road in Merry Hill, (now with a Mission Chapel in it) and Upper Swan Bank, all of which are in a shocking condition.

ARSENIC IN BEER, I believe, has not affected your district at all, though there were nearly 700 cases of poisoning in the county by the first week or so of January, 1901.

Appended you will find the Report of your Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. R. SPACKMAN, F.R.I.P.H.

TABLE I.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		Deaths in Public Institu- tions.
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*	
1890	..	317	24.0	42	132.4	202	15.3	6
1891	..	342	28.0	38	111.1	254	20.9	3
1892	..	356	27.6	48	134.9	236	19.4	9
1893	..	330	26.8	29	87.8	160	13.0	7
1894	..	301	24.2	29	96.3	169	13.5	3
1895	..	373	29.0	49	131.3	213	16.6	10
1896	..	324	24.8	40	123.4	180	13.7	10
1897	..	302	22.5	51	168.8	208	15.3	8
1898	..	348	25.5	45	129.3	182	13.3	6
1899	..	309	22.5	36	116.5	205	14.9	11
Averages for years 189 -1899		330	25.4	40	110.1	200	15.5	73
1900	..	329	23.1	32	97.2	215	15.6	15

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 35748. Total population at all ages, 13773.

Number of inhabited houses, 3030. Average number of persons per house, 4.5

TABLE II.
Rural District of Seisdon.

Names of Localities.	TETTENHALL.				KINVER.				WOMBOURN.			
	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1891 ..	3255	87	62	7	3165	96	69	9	5717	159	123	22
1892 ..	3255	92	67	17	3147	79	60	8	5740	185	109	25
1893 ..	3305	77	46	5	3143	76	42	5	5841	177	72	19
1894 ..	3355	64	49	7	3194	82	43	4	5931	155	77	18
1895 ..	3375	94	59	8	3429	87	53	13	6020	192	101	28
1896 ..	3400	80	53	14	3523	84	44	11	6140	160	83	15
1897 ..	3590	87	57	20	3625	68	52	8	6201	147	99	23
1898 ..	3690	88	49	12	3660	83	59	12	6286	177	74	25
1899 ..	3610	87	52	16	3708	75	64	10	6380	147	89	20
Averages of Years 1891 to 1899 ..	3427	84	54.7	10.6	3432	81	53.9	8.9	6028	166	91.9	21.4
1900 ..	3640	92	42	9	3713	91	61	10	6420	146	112	13

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1900.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.			No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Tettenhall.	Kinver.	Wombourne.	Tettenhall.	Kinver.	Wombourne.
		1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 & upwards.						
Diphtheria ..	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	9	1	..	1	6	1	2	..	7	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	12	3	7	1	1	..	7	..	5	6	..	3
Enteric Fever ..	3	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	2	..	..	..
Totals ..	28	5	9	3	10	1	10	..	18	6	..	3

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED DURING
THE YEAR 1900.

Number of Houses Inspected	385
Number of Notices on Books, 31st December, 1899...	16
Number of Notices served	118
Complied with	116
Leaving on the Books, 31st December, 1900 ...	18
Letters written relative to Nuisances	225
Bake-houses Inspected	13
Slaughter-houses Inspected	8
Cow Sheds and Milk Shops Inspected	59
Canal Boats Inspected	94
Houses closed unfit for habitation	—
Repaired	11
Limewashed	22
Through Ventilation provided	—
Disinfection	24
Dangerous building pulled down	1
Yards Paved	3
Water Closets Repaired and Ventilated	2
Spouting provided	4
Cellars Drained	3
Filthy Houses Cleansed	2
Gipsy Camp Removed	1
Privies Removed and Reconstructed	6
Emptied and Cleansed	67
Ashpits Repaired	7
Ashpits built to Privies	7
Privies Repaired	7
Doors and Spouting provided... ..	1
Pan System Adopted	9
Privies Limewashed	15
Privies Drained	8
Urinals provided	2
Water Closets provided	1

Drains laid to Houses ...	...	...	...	...	27
Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	29
Trapped ...	...	...	...	...	34
Cesspits Constructed ...	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools Emptied ...	...	...	...	...	4
Foul Cesspits filled up	...	...	...	...	2
Foul Ditches Cleansed...	...	...	...	...	4
Pumps put to Cesspools	...	...	...	...	1
Pigsties Removed ...	...	...	...	...	23
Ceased Keeping Swine...	...	...	...	...	2
Catchpits built to Piggeries	...	...	...	...	2
Foul Pigwash Removed	...	...	...	...	3
Manure and other Filth Removed	...	...	...	...	38
Cowsheds Limewashed	...	...	...	...	13
Foul Piggeries Cleansed	...	...	...	...	11
Fowlpen removed	...	...	...	...	1
Water Supply—Pumps Repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Wells Sunk ...	...	...	...	...	4
Tap Water laid on to Houses...	...	...	...	...	16
Wells Cleansed...	...	...	...	...	8
Wells Covered, Repaired, Paved, and Channelled	...	...	...	...	3
Wells Deepened	...	...	...	...	2
Water Analysed—Wholesome	...	...	...	...	11
„ „ —Polluted	...	...	...	...	13
Wells Closed	...	...	...	...	2
Persons Summoned before the Magistrates	...	...	...	...	4
Total					472

WORKS DONE IN UPPER PENN.

Victoria Road, Bradmore, has been macadamised and kerbed.

13 yards of 6in. sewer has been laid in main road, near Mrs. Hill's house.

200 yards of foul ditch cleaned out near Victoria Road, Bradmore.

Road gulley trapped near Mr. Weaver's house.

Road gulley trapped opposite "Alma House," Church Road.

Sewer ventilator fixed at top of Coalway Lane, Penn Fields.

Large foul catch-pit near Roebuck Inn reconstructed.

The adoption of emptying privies by contract in Upper Penn works very satisfactorily.

WOMBOURNE.

56 yards of 6in. sewer laid top of Windmill Bank, and ventilator fixed to same.

CODSALL.

106 yards of 6in. and 91 yards of 4in. sewer laid in field in Codsall Wood Road.

